

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of subject claims 10-18 are respectfully requested. Applicants note in the August 24, 2004 Advisory Action that no indication was made as to the entry of claim 17. The Examiner is respectfully requested to so indicate in the subsequent office action.

Rejection Under 35 USC 103

Claims 10-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over US 4,120,914 to Behnke et al. (Behnke) in view of US 5,299,602 to Barbeau et al. (Barbeau) and US 5,879,800 to Geirhos (Geirhos).

The Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create the yarn of Behnke in view of Barbeau with a random entangled loop structure as suggested by Geirhos. Geirhos is clearly not related to the art area to which the subject invention is directed. The Examiner suggests that this combination is motivated by the desire to create a fully integrated yarn with superior mechanical properties. Geirhos is directed to yarns made of a matrix fiber and a reinforcing fiber and any superior mechanical properties are a function of that yarn structure. Further, Geirhos only mentions loop yarns as a secondary alternative to flat yarns, but is silent on the yarn being random entangled loops with specific weight per unit length, as claimed. Further, the generic concept of superior mechanical properties of Geirhos would not provide any motivation to one of ordinary skill to achieve the fire resistance and low fabric weight to which the subject invention is directed. The Examiner has failed to show a prima facie case of obviousness, and it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In the Advisory Action, dated August 24, 2004, the Examiner requested that Applicant provide a Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 to show why the randomly entangled loops provide unexpected results. A Declaration by the inventor has been filed concurrently with this response.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing is a complete response to the subject Office Action. Applicants believe that all rejections can be overcome and that the instant claims are now in condition for allowance. If any matters remain for resolution, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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